Specification

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 5, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1A-1B: Western blot analysis using commercially available preparation of gamma enolase. The data show that all five patients reacted with the commercial preparation of gamma enolase as well as the 50 kD protein, see lanes A1-5 for commercially available NSE (Fig. 1A) and lanes B1-5 for purified 50kD protein (Fig. 1B). Lane 6 is control.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 15, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one embodiment the agent is gamma enolase. In a further embodiment the enolase is human or bovine. In different embodiments the gamma enolase, or neuron-specific enolase, has the sequence shown in figures 21-24 (SEQ ID NOs.:21-24) or is an immunogenic fragment thereof. In differing embodiments the agent is a protein encoded by a nucleic acid that encodes the proteins shown in figures 21-24 (SEQ ID NOs.:21-24). In other embodiments the agent is a protein comprising consecutive amino acids comprising one or more of the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs.: 25-41. ~~Acitve~~ Active fragments of antibodies include F_{AB} portions.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 20, line 14, with

the following rewritten paragraph:

To determine whether gamma enolase indeed is the target of autoantibodies in our patients with NPSLE we tested five patients with NPSLE in Western blot analysis using commercially available preparation of gamma enolase. The reactivity of these sera was also tested with 50kD purified protein for comparison. The data (figure 1) show that all five patients reacted with the commercial preparation of gamma enolase (Fig. 1A) as well as the 50 kD protein (Fig. 1B).